(12/31/1995)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE **Date:** 11/07/1997

To: Columbia **Attn:** SSA [redacted]

From: [redacted]
Squad 5 Myrtle Beach RA

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted]

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Case ID #: 139C-CO-23576 (Pending)

Title: [redacted]
DBA, RADIO SHACK,
[redacted] SC;
JONES INTERCABLE,
MURRELLS INLET,SC - VICTIM;
IOC-SIGNAL THEFT;

Synopsis: Request for $900 of case funds for undercover buy of evidence.

Details: Over the past two years, Jones Intercable has received numerous complaints indicating that [redacted] of the Radio Shack in [redacted] South Carolina, is the main person in [redacted] area installing pirated chips. These chips allow the user of cable to receive free programs such as movies, fights, the Spice and Playboy channels,etc. These users only pay for basic services and the amount of money lost by Jones Intercable is enormous.

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AUSA [redacted] Columbia, South Carolina, previously prosecuted installers and has stated he will continue to prosecute those individuals who do a large number of these installations.

[redacted] South Carolina has been conducting private investigations for Jones Intercable. As of this date [redacted] has purchased nine converter boxes for Jones Intercable and Time Warner Cable all containing the chip placed inside the boxes by [redacted] at the Radio Shack. Each box with the chip has cost $150.

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AUSA [redacted] had advised that he would like to see at least fourteen converter boxes be purchased, each containing the chip.

Upon purchasing an additional six converter boxes with the installed chip, a search warrant will be requested for the

139C-CO-23576 Sub CE
partial

To: Columbia From: [redacted]
Re: 139C-CO-23576, 11/07/1997

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Radio Shack in [redacted].

It is requested that $900 of case funds be expended to make the purchase of the six converter boxes containing the chips.

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